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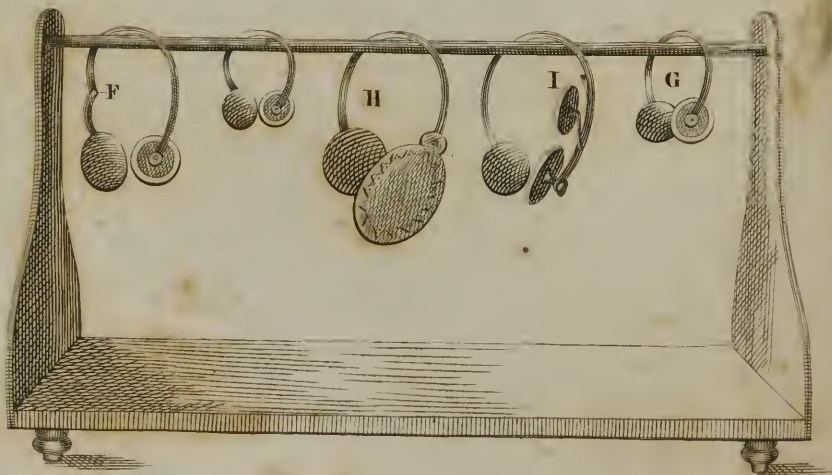
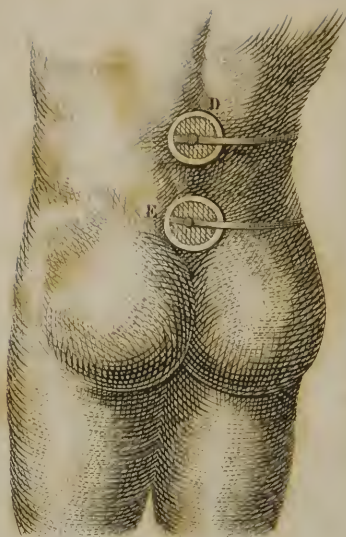
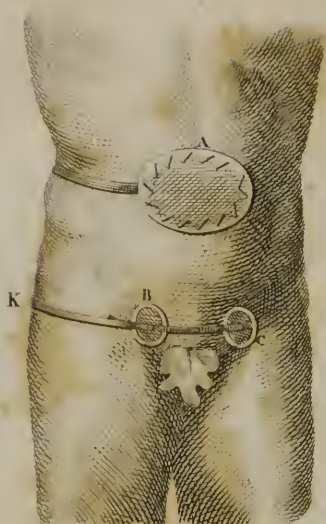
Presents by H. G. Hull

To James A. G. No. 2.

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DR. HULL'S  
OBSERVATIONS  
ON  
TRUSSES.

34



PRACTICAL ELUCIDATION  
OF  
THE NATURE OF HERNIA,

TOGETHER WITH SOME REMARKS ON THE

**Unfit Instruments**

HITHERTO USED FOR ITS CONFINEMENT.

WITH AN EXPLANATION OF

THE EXPERIENCED UTILITY AND EFFECTUAL CURES

OF

THE INSTRUMENT NOW RECOMMENDED.

P.O.  
BY A. G. HULL,

INVENTOR AND PATENTEE,

PERMANENT MEMBER OF THE STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY, AND LATE  
PRESIDENT OF THE ONEIDA MEDICAL SOCIETY.

He maketh sore and he bindeth up; he woundeth and his bands maketh whole.—Job


NEW-YORK:

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1823.

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## PREFACE.



THE author of these few practical observations, during twenty-five years' practice in surgery, having witnessed the dreadful consequences incident to ruptures, the indescribable agony attending them, and the loss of many valuable lives, of both sexes, almost uniformly the result of bad and ineffectual Trusses, or neglecting to use any—was prompted by feelings of humanity, professional duty, and pride, to devote a share of his time and attention (during the last seven years) to the disease of hernia, and the construction of an instrument for the different species of that disease, and without arrogating to himself superior powers, or intelligence, he is now satisfied that he has brought into successful operation an improved Truss, happily adapted to all cases of ruptures, of both sexes. By his own experience, and that of many others, he does not hesitate to announce to the world the efficient powers combined in his contrivance. The benefits already derived to thousands by the use of this instrument, has given the inventor gratification better felt than can be expressed. The use of this instrument is no longer a subject of doubt or experiment; for the excellency




of any useful innovation is always known by its effects. The author feels satisfied in having given to the world an important alleviator, as well as a probable cure, of a disability or disease, which hitherto the pride of professional science has unwittingly too much neglected: and he feels a conscious pleasure that he has not derogated from scientific surgery by making use of mechanical skill. Hereafter surgeons may do more in various other diseases or casualties: with regard to rupture, it is believed, that now all is done that can be even desirable; that which has never been contemplated—a complete cure.

Every benevolent heart will rejoice with the author at a surgical improvement so sure to alleviate (and in most cases to cure) a disease the most distressing, and often dangerous, to which man is liable; and it may be added, to the surprise of many, the most common of all other afflictions.

Whatever effect ignorance or prejudice may have upon the minds of individuals, the enlightened part of the profession will acknowledge, as an important acquisition to the healing art, an improvement which has already received the sanction and patronage of many of our most distinguished citizens: and whatever should hereafter be the fate of the improvement, it will ever be to the author a source of conscious pleasure, that it has already relieved much of the distress of his fellow-men, and no doubt preserved to their friends and the community many valuable lives.



## TRUSSES.



AMONG the various causes of human misery, few are productive of so much distress as the disease of Hernia. So long baffled in their attempts to cure the complaint, surgeons appear to have abandoned it to mechanics, and to have confined their research to the best mode of reduction and operation, without thinking it possible to obviate, almost entirely, the necessity of so difficult, dangerous, and painful a resource. For the purpose of confining the viscera within the parietes of the abdomen, many differently constructed instruments have been invented; but all without any reference to the anatomy, or physiology of the parts concerned; and it has been a subject of serious regret, that they have hitherto proved not only ineffectual, but, in their application to the body, distressingly inconvenient. If we investigate the cause of these difficulties, we shall find them to have resulted necessarily from the method usually employed to fix the pad in a given position, and from the form of this part of the instrument. It must be obvious to every individual in the least acquainted with the mechanical operations of the human body, that any mode of fixture by an encircling belt, must be entirely inefficient; since it must be sufficiently tight to overcome the contractions of the muscles, and impede the motions of the body, or be liable to vary its pressure, and be flung from its position by their alternate contraction and relaxation. Not only

the circular belt, but other straps, or fastenings, are required to retain them upon the rupture opening. These always excoriate and inflame the parts to which they are applied, and with all their complication are inadequate to secure the protruding intestine.

These remarks are particularly applicable to the Truss recommended by Dorsey and Cooper, nor are they the only objections which may with propriety be urged against it. The cushion being immovable, except with the motions of the spring to which it is attached, is liable to be flung from the aperture in different positions of the body, particularly by those motions which call into action the muscles upon the outer part of the pelvis. The viscera are thus suffered to escape, and are liable to be caught and bruised between the pad and the resisting parts of the body. This has been acknowledged by surgeons of experience, to be a very frequent cause of the most obstinate strangulation. To these objections, however, the ingenious instrument of Salmon, Ody & Co. are an exception; and from the honourable mention they have lately received, are deserving of particular attention. In their mode of application they are similar to those we have presented to the public, and by some have been thought to be not essentially different; but a little attention to their construction, with a knowledge of their effects derived from experience, will be sufficient to convince any rational mind, that notwithstanding they retain their position with a uniform pressure, they still exhibit a train of objections which ought for ever to prohibit their application. The pad of this truss, it will be recollected, is connected to the spring by a ball and socket joint, which is almost unlimited in the extent of its motion. This renders the pad liable in particular motions of the body, aided by the force of the protruding intestines, to be rolled upon its edge. The gut is thus not only suffered to escape.

but the integuments are bruised and injured by its frequent occurrence. This is not mere supposition of what may happen, but what does actually take place; and we have seen a most irritable excrescence produced by the edge of the pad, thus bruising the integuments, keeping them constantly inflamed, the patient in torture, and subjected to the danger of strangulation. There is another difficulty which this instrument possesses in common with all others hitherto used, which, if possible, is still worse than that already described: I allude to the convexity of the pad, which resembles the bowl of a spoon, and is mechanically designed, though erroneously, to press into the rupture opening; thus constantly dilating the aperture, and increasing the difficulty it was intended to remedy. The convexity of the pad of this truss is greater than most others in use, and is on that account proportionably objectionable. When this Truss has been applied, and great pressure was required, we have seen the ring dilated almost to the full size of the pad. It will be further observed, that a greater pressure is necessary to secure a rupture with this form of pad than with one which is flat or concave; for the intestine always searching for an opening, meeting with this convex surface, is reflected from the centre, and when it can find the least aperture between the pad and the walls of the abdomen, will operate upon the principle of the wedge to roll the pad upon its edge. With all these objections apparent, it is somewhat singular, that a learned annotator in this country (though not a native) should have given the preference to this instrument.

We are unwilling to think it was through any predilection for the inventions of his own countrymen, but suppose it to have originated from an entire want of reflection upon its promiscuous tendency, and of experience in the proper mode of its application. This we are the more inclined to believe, as he does

not appear to be aware of the evil consequences resulting from a convex surface applied to the ruptured part, and from the circumstance of the awkward manner in which these trusses are usually applied. This instrument, invented by Salmon Ody & Co., is, we humbly conceive, intended to extend from the centre of the spine, round one hip, to the rupture opening upon the opposite side, and not, as most persons suppose, to apply upon the nearest ring, with the spring playing loosely upon the hip, or turned up over the spine of the ilium, and "resting upon the soft muscles of the abdomen." A truss applied in this manner is not only extremely awkward, but useless: awkward, because the form of the spring would be rendered more visible through the dress, and very troublesome in certain positions of the body: useless, because, without embracing the swell of the abdomen, it would be constantly slipping from its position. The double Truss of Salmon Ody & Co. is applied in a different manner from their single. It consists of two springs attached to a single pad which rests upon the centre of the spine. The rupture pad of each spring applies to the nearest abdominal ring. To retain them in this position, it is found necessary to connect the two pads by means of a strap passing from one to the other. This prevents their receding from each other, which any person can perceive would evidently be their tendency, from the make of the parts upon which the pads are placed. The same would be the tendency of the single Truss, if applied in the manner usually recommended.

It is a matter of the deepest regret, that circumstances of so much consequence to an unfortunate class of our fellow-men should have been so little attended to in the construction and application of the preventive means for the different species of *Herniæ*: and that Trusses, combining so few of the principles which lead to the prevention of this cala-



mity, and many of them evidently calculated to increase the difficulty and danger of the patient, should have obtained such general use, and been recommended in so many works of merit, which but tends to propagate error, and to perpetuate that obstinacy of prejudice for which the faculty are already but too justly distinguished.

It was witnessing the above enumerated defects of all Trusses, and the dreadful effects attendant upon rupture, which first led us to reflect upon the nature of the complaint, and to search for some more efficient means to mitigate the distress, and preserve the lives of our fellow-men. As a compensation for our research, is the gratification that we have thus far been enabled not only to secure every instance of reducible hernia, but to restore to perfect health a great proportion even of very aged sufferers. In the almost innumerable cases of children when this instrument has been applied, not a single instance has occurred, (within our knowledge,) which has not been cured in less than eighteen months, and few have exceeded six.

In opposition to the opinion of all surgeons, it is found by experience, that there is no necessity for continuing the application of the Truss during the night. On the contrary, we have thought a cure was hastened by the rest which the muscles obtained while the patient is in a recumbent posture. In this position there is little chance for the descent of the bowel, and even if such an occurrence take place, there is no more foundation for the assertion of Mr. Cooper, "that all hope of a radical cure is destroyed in a moment," than there was formerly for the opinion, that the least motion of a fractured limb would destroy the whole progress it had made in uniting.

The qualities we have united in the Truss, are equally applicable to every species of Hernia, and we can say, without the fear of contradiction, that

the proportion of cures it has effected is altogether unparalleled. It may, perhaps, be an interesting inquiry to some, how this instrument produces its effects; and we think, after considering its construction, this question can be answered to the satisfaction of every rational mind. It will be observed, that this Truss presents a flat or concave surface to the rupture, resting with a brim upon the walls of the opening. The concavity of the plate is occupied by an elastic cushion, the resistance of which is sufficient to reduce the protruding intestine while it is prevented escaping to any considerable distance by the pressure of the metallic plate. In this manner nothing is suffered to intervene between the lips of the opening, as is the case when the intestine protrudes, or a convex pad is applied, but a fair opportunity is presented for the fibres to recover their tone, or to heal; when any laceration has been produced by violence done to the parts. It is a law of the animal economy, particularly noticed by Dorsey, that all hollow parts of the body, have a tendency to adapt themselves to their contents. For the cure of Hernia then, it is only necessary to remove every obstacle which counteracts this tendency. This indication is certainly very far from being answered by the convex pad, and we think it can only be fulfilled by one which shall reduce the bowel without dilating the ring; with this view, we have applied the concave pad, which has more than answered our expectations, in preventing a decent of the gut, and in restoring the fibres, which it undoubtedly greatly facilitates by its constant and uniform pressure. But without investigating the *modus operandi*, it is sufficient for the patient, and for all practical purposes, for the physician to know, that with this instrument Hernia may always be secured. If applied in cases of umbilical, or congenital Hernia in children, it will in every instance, remove the necessity of an operation. In cases of congenital Hernia, it should be ap-



plied before adhesion takes place, but not until the testicle has made its decent. If this particular period should be more carefully observed by surgeons, and the application of the Truss, (instead of being abandoned to mechanics) receive a greater share of their attention, they might be instrumental in obviating much of the distress which has been entailed upon the world.

It is a fact well known to the profession in the County of Oneida, and has been a subject of congratulation in their Medical Society, that from the year 1800 to 1819 from three to five persons were annually the subjects of operations from strangulated Hernia : and that from the year 1819 to 1822, not a single case had occurred within the knowledge of any individual member of the society, This surprising alteration was attributed, solely, to the general use of the instrument now under consideration.

With all these facts before the public, we are sorry to observe, that many of the faculty are still determined to be sceptical, and to persevere in giving the preference to the convex pad. It is a knowledge of this fact, and we trust, a just sense of the duty we owe to the public, which has induced us to make so many observations in recommending our own improvements. We are not unconscious that the malicious may attribute it to a less worthy motive ; but as we have thus far, (in introducing what we consider a valuable instrument,) had the mortification to encounter the sneers of our brethren, and the independence to disregard them, we shall not probably at this late period, shrink from the task assigned us, " through fear to cope malicious censure."

A. G. HULL.

## MODE OF APPLICATION.



AFTER having stated the manner in which we conceive this Truss produces its effects, and the authority in testimony of its superior utility, we deem it important to make a few remarks, particularly regarding its application. This is the more indispensable, since surgeons, who alone are sufficiently acquainted with the different species of the disease, the anatomy of the parts, and the proper adaptation of the Truss, have abandoned their charge to apothecaries, and men entirely ignorant of the complaint. We also find that the most ingenious surgeons, misguided by the instruments formerly in use, and forgetting the important principle, that the pressure should be made perpendicular to the rupture, have very frequently applied them upon the wrong side of the patient. In this manner the spring projects some inches beyond the body, (unless it is much smaller than it should be when properly applied) making a very unseemly appearance, and by flinging the pressure upon the edge of the pad, destroys the principle of the instrument. For the purpose of rendering these instruments less liable to be wrongly applied, these remarks are accompanied with a plate representing them as adapted to the different species of Hernia. H represents the umbilical Truss; A the situation of the rupture pad in umbilical Hernia, resting with its centre directly over the rupture opening. The spring of the pad passes close to the side, as represented by the plate. D represents the situation of the back pad upon the centre of the spine. I is a representation

of the Double Truss, when upon the body the principal part of the pressure is made upon the end pad, C; that should, therefore, be applied to the worst rupture. The degree of pressure upon the second pad, B, is regulated by a cork wedge, which is made to slide between the main spring, and small spring, to which the second pad is attached. The application of this Truss is represented by the letters KBC. The back pad resting upon the sacrum, as shown by the letter E. The rupture pads should apply immediately over the rupture opening, the lower edge just touching the edge of the pubis, without resting upon the bone. The spring should pass in a horizontal line, and be neither so large as to be inconvenient, or so small as to press upon any part of the body. The force of the spring should be sufficient to keep the gut always reduced. The greater pressure the patient can bear, the more perfect is his security, and the greater the prospect of radical cure. G represents the single Ing. Truss; it differs in no respect from the double, without the addition of the second pad. If the rupture be in the right groin, this Truss comes on from the left side, as represented by KC. And the same Truss reversed for a rupture in the left groin. Fig. F represents the instrument as applied in femoral Hernia. The curve in the spring at F, is for the purpose of dropping the rupture pad lower in the groin, while the back pad retains the position E. In these cases it will be generally found necessary to turn up a little the upper and lower edge of the pad to prevent its chafing the integuments of the abdomen and thigh.

If proper attention is paid, it will be difficult to mistake the application of this instrument. The one first applied may not be the best adapted, but the opportunity afforded of trying the several degrees of pressure will at least secure the rupture, if it does not go to the extent of cure.

In support of what has been said of the superiority of the Truss now before the public, we have thought proper to present the following certificates and recommendations from incorporated Medical Institutions, and gentlemen of the first respectability and eminence in the profession.

*Certificate from Samuel L. Mitchill. M. D. LL. D. F. R. S.  
Member of the Cæsarean Academy of Naturæ Curiosorum  
of Moscow, of which the Emperor Alexander is Patron.*

New-York, April 7, 1823.

Dr. A. G. HULL.—Dear Sir—Since you brought me an introductory note from one of the first gentlemen, a good friend, in Oneida County, I have sought opportunities of hearing your discourses upon rupture, and the mode of moderating and removing it by the mechanism of your invention. I have been on several occasions highly gratified by the manner in which you presented and explained the disease; and the mode, not merely of rendering patients comfortable, but sound and well, by your remedial apparatus.

Although I have not had time and opportunity during the short season of our acquaintance to make observations on your *lately improved self-adjusting Hinge Truss* as to its practical effect, yet from the combination of physiological science and mechanical skill displayed in its construction and use, I am satisfied it ranks among the very valuable aids to lessen human suffering.

And, when we consider how imminent the danger is from strangulated Hernia, and how formidable the surgical operation for its relief, all benevolent souls will rejoice in the happy discovery; which, upon the plan of prevention, saves the individual from such pain and distress.

I wish you success in binding up the weak parts, and rendering them whole.

SAMUEL L. MITCHILL.

*To whom it may concern.*

The subscriber has had frequent opportunities of examining Dr. Hull's patented Truss, and of seeing the application of it to different kinds of Hernia, and he does not hesitate to say, it is the best instrument he is acquainted with. The writer was disposed to give the preference to Salmon Odie & Co.'s Truss, until he examined Dr. Hull's invention, and he now thinks the latter a preferable contrivance from the more limited mobility and flatted form of the rupture pad.



He therefore thinks Dr. Hull's Truss a highly valuable improvement, and one which he believes will contribute largely to abridge the sufferings of that part of the community afflicted with ruptures.

Dr. Hull is entitled to the thanks of the public for having directed his attention to the construction of this instrument. Possessing professional knowledge, united with mechanical ingenuity, would alone entitle his invention to the notice and regard of his surgical brethren.

VALENTINE MOTT, M. D.

*Professor of Surgery, University of New-York.*

New-York, 10th April, 1823.

*Certificate from Nathan Smith, M. D. C. S. M. S. Lond.  
Professor of the Theory and Practice of Physic, Surgery,  
and Obstetrics, Yale-College.*

This may certify that I have examined Dr. A. G. HULL'S Self-adjusting Patent Hinge Truss, and have applied it in several cases of Hernia. From my knowledge of the principle upon which it acts, and from its effects, I do not hesitate to give it a decided preference to any thing of the kind I have ever seen.

NATHAN SMITH,

*Prof. of Physic and Surgery, Yale College.*

*Copy of a Letter from Samuel R. Marshall, Hospital Surgeon, United States Navy, New York, to F. Le Baron, Esq. Apothecary General, United States Army.*

Dear Sir—This will be handed you by Dr. HULL, the inventor of a Truss which promises to be extremely useful in every species of Hernia. It is, in my opinion, so far superior to all the Trusses hitherto used, that I have determined to make use of them in all the United States ships, which may be fitted out at this port. As a production of American ingenuity, it is entitled to a fair trial; and I am persuaded you will take pleasure in affording it that justice, by employing it in the army. With great respect and esteem, I am, Dear Sir, truly your obedient servant,

SAMUEL R. MARSHALL.

New-York, June 24, 1819.

Since the above, Joseph Lovell, Esq. Surgeon General of the United States, has, in his public capacity, sanctioned these Trusses, and given to them his professional recommendation.

*Extract of a Letter from Dr. Caleb Samson, enclosing the certificate of the members of Oneida Medical Society, and other well known gentlemen, whose names have been given in recommendation of the Instrument.*

New-Hartford, March 24th, 1821.

Dr. A. G. HULL—Dear Sir—Having known several complete cures effected by your *Hinge Truss*, I cannot conscientiously omit any endeavours to extend its use. It unites, to a degree hitherto unknown, the useful qualities required in an instrument of this kind.

The enclosed certificates of the members of the Medical Society of this county, does not derive its value from its number, but from the worth of the signers; to which I add with great pleasure, the concurrent opinion of many of our most distinguished citizens, and am with sentiments of esteem and respect, your obedient,

CALEB SAMSON.

*Certificate of the members of Oneida Medical Society.*

We, the undersigned, members of the *Medical Society of the County of Oneida*, sensible of the indefatigable exertions of our President, Dr. A. G. Hull, in inventing and bringing into use his valuable Truss: and repeated instances having come within our knowledge, of its effecting radical cures on very aged people, who had been ruptured the greater part of their lives, render it, in our opinion, superior to any other introduced in Europe or America. We most sincerely congratulate the public on an improvement so well calculated to relieve the distressed, and to save the lives of many valuable citizens.

JOSIAH NOYES, *Prof. of Chem.*

SEWALL HOPKINS.

ELNATHAN JUDD.

CHARLES BABCOCK.

MARCUS HITCHCOCK.

ABBA BLAIR, *V. Pres't.*

SETH S. PECK, *Secretary.*

LAURENS HULL, *Del.*

SETH HASTINGS, *Jun. Tr.*

EZRA WILLIAMS.

SETH CAPRON.

*Certificate from the Hon. Ezekiel Bacon, Hon. Morris S. Miller, Hon. Nathan Williams, Hon. Thomas R. Gold, Hon. W. Kirkpatrick, and the Rev. S. C. Aikin.*

We are happy to join with the above gentlemen of the faculty, in congratulating the public on an invention so beneficial to the community as Dr. Hull's Truss—are gratified to state, that we are acquainted with the fact, that a number of aged and respectable citizens of our vicinity, from the use of



this instrument have experienced perfect radical cures ; and that the unfortunate class of people labouring under the distressing disease of rupture, are presented with flattering prospects of relief and cure, from the use of the same. .

EZEKIEL BACON,  
MORRIS S. MILLER,  
W. KIRKPATRICK,

THOMAS R. GOLD,  
NATHAN WILLIAMS,  
S. C. AIKIN.

*The following is from two of the Professors of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of the Western District, Fairfield, New-York.*

This certifies, that we have examined the Patent self-adjusting Hinge Truss, invented by Doctor Hull, and have no hesitation in stating, that in our opinion it is far superior to any now in use. A simple mode of application, a constant, easy, and an effectual pressure on a given point, without liability to be displaced, or to impede the free motions of the body, are qualities which it unites. These are qualities not to be found in the ordinary kinds, and which entitle his invention to the entire approbation of physicians, and to the notice of the public.

*College of Physicians and Surgeons of the  
Western District, Dec. 1817.*

JAMES HADLEY, *Prof. Chem. &c.*  
WESTEL WILLOUGHBY, *Prof. Obstets.*

*Dr. A. G. Hull,*

Dear Sir—My partner, Dr. Nash, has been ruptured from his infancy up, and found no effectual means of relief till he applied your Truss, and says it has been one of the greatest comforts of his life, and to all appearance has effected a cure.

DAVID HULL, *Fairfield.*

*Extract from the published transactions of the New-York State Medical Society—Session 1822.*

“The Committee report, that from an examination of Dr. A. G. Hull’s Truss, that they have no hesitation in stating, that from the entire new principles on which it acts, with the effective qualities which it unites, it is far superior to any other in use, and, in their opinion, is entitled to the entire approbation of Physicians, and the encouragement of the public.”

*Copy of a letter from Mason F. Cogswell, M. D. to the Patentee.*

Doctor Hull,

HARTFORD, July 23, 1819.

Sir—It is with real satisfaction I comply with your request, in giving my opinion of your improved Trusses. The simplicity of their construction, the facility with which they may be applied, and their perfect adaptation to all the variety of cases which may occur, render them far superior to any thing of the kind I have ever seen. I have witnessed their efficacy in a variety of instances, and do not hesitate to recommend them, in the strongest terms, to public use and patronage.

MASON F. COGSELL.

We hereby certify, That having attentively examined the improved Trusses of Doctor A. G. Hull, feel fully warranted in recommending them as greatly superior to any others now in use within our knowledge.

ALEX. COVENTRY.

JOHN McCALL.

*Utica, April 6, 1822.*

As a practitioner of physic and surgery, I have made a thorough trial of Dr. Hull's patent Trusses, and am convinced, from the number of permanent cures of ruptures effected by them under my own inspection, that they justly claim a decided superiority over any thing of the kind hitherto invented.

BENJAMIN COE,

*President of the Oswego Medical Society.*

*Extract of a letter from Dr. T. Woodward, of Wethersfield, Conn. who experienced the happy effects of the instrument on himself.*

Dr. A. G. Hull,

Dear Sir,—I can inform you with real pleasure, that after two years' experience, I have found your Truss to be decidedly preferable to any instrument of the kind I have ever used or seen.

"It is easy for the wearer, yet fully adequate to prevent the descent of the bowel. The umbilical truss is very much superior to any thing heretofore devised for the relief of um-

bilical or navel ruptures. They will doubtless effect a speedy cure in children if properly and constantly applied.

Perhaps above all the advantages of your Truss is the concave pad; this I believe is peculiar to your instrument, and is, I conceive, well calculated to effect a radical cure of the disease.

I am, respectfully, your friend and servt.

SAMUEL B. WOODWARD.

The following recommendations are from gentlemen of the first respectability, who have been under the necessity of using the Truss, or have witnessed its effects on others, and also from the attending physicians of the several patients whose cases are mentioned.

William Tilman, of Utica, aged 65, cured in less than one year.

Titus Evans, Utica, aged 45, cured in less than 10 months.

Deacon Benj. Maltby, Conn. aged 65, cured in six months.

Dr. Nash, Fairfield, do. aged 40, cured in 12 months.

William M. Cheever, Whitesborough, aged 40, cured in 9 months.

Joseph House, Westminster, U. C. aged 45, cured in less than one year, after having been ruptured 25 years.

Eli Bristol, of Paris, Oneida county, aged 65, cured in 2 years, after having been ruptured about 30 years.

T. Smith, of Deerfield, aged 78, cured in less than 2 years.

A Lady in Sangerfield, cured of an alarming crural rupture in less than one year, as communicated by Dr. S. N. Meacham.

Also, an aged woman in Utica, cured of a large Navel Rupture in less than 12 months.

*Extract of a Letter from Dr. S. S. Peck, of Whitesborough*

H. L'Homedieu, of Catskill, perfectly cured in less than ten months, aged 72.

The undersigned, after having been rendered almost useless for about nine years, from a large rupture, under which he laboured with indescribable sufferings, was so fortunate as to obtain the celebrated Truss of Dr. Hull, in the wearing of which, I was not only able to return to my daily labour without

the least inconvenience. (though without any hopes of a cure) but was to all intents perfectly healed and sound in less than ten months.

JOHN TILMAN.

Utica, N. Y.

*From Mr. William M. Cheever, Superintendant of Seneca Turnpike.*

Dear Sir—After having been afflicted with a distressing rupture for fifteen years, I obtained one of your self-adjusting Hinge Trusses, in the use of which, I found not only immediate relief, and an ability to labour, but have in less than nine months, experienced a perfect cure.

WILLIAM M. CHEEVER.

Whitestown, N. Y.

We, the undersigned, after having nearly abandoned all hopes of obtaining any means of relief for the dreadful disease of rupture, with which we have long been afflicted, have recently experienced in the use of Dr. Hull's truly useful improvement, that ease, comfort, and ability to labour, which by long experience in the use of other Trusses, we are confident cannot otherwise be found; and we esteem it as a circumstance of no trifling consideration, that such an invaluable instrument can be obtained. With grateful feelings we sincerely congratulate Dr. Hull on the ready adoption of his Truss, so highly and justly recommended by some of the most respectable medical institutions, and skilful surgeons of our country. We doubt not that every feeling heart will unite with us, and be highly gratified to have it in their power to encourage and extend the use of an improvement so admirably calculated to lessen the miseries and remove the dangers of this dreadful disease.

JOHN MILES, *New-Haven*, JOEL HALL, *Wallingford*,  
ISAAC GILBERT, *do.* NATHAN CHITTENDEN, *Guilford*.

The undersigned, most cordially concurs with the above, and with no inconsiderable pleasure is happy to add, that in the use of this incomparable Truss, he has, to all appearance, experienced a perfect cure in less than six months.

BENJ. MALTBY, *Northford*.

It is important to remark, that some of the above gentlemen who have given certificates, are in advanced stages of life; viz. Captain J. Miles, aged 66; Isaac Gilbert, Esq. aged 63; Deacon Benjamin Maltby, aged 65, and Mr. Hall, aged 72.









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